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# Sheafe Family.



WATKINS.





# THE SHEAFE FAMILY

OF

OLD AND NEW ENGLAND.

By

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<sup>11</sup>

MALDEN, MASS.

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## THE SHEAFE FAMILY IN ENGLAND AND NEW ENGLAND.

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SOME of the principal settlers of Guilford, Conn., were men from the county of Kent, England, and it was an old Kent family, the Guildfords or Guldefords of Hemsted, Kent, from which it derived its name.

Located at Hemsted, in Beauden parish, which adjoins Cranbrook and Rolvenden, soon after the Conquest, the Guldord family were prominent, both from their public service and through the alliances they formed. It was in 1575 that Sir Thomas Guldeford entertained Queen Elizabeth at Hemsted. A modern mansion has since been erected there, and is the seat of Viscount Cranbrook, a recent creation (1878), the Guldord baronetcy having become extinct in the first part of the eighteenth century.

Another residence of the Guldefords was Halden-Place, in Rolvenden parish, which came into their family by marriage of an heiress of the Haldens, temp. Henry IV.

It was Sir Henry Guldeforde, son of Sir Thomas above mentioned, who in 1587 sold a Thomas Kitchell 100 acres of marsh ground in Guldeforde marsh, in the parish of East Guldeforde, Sussex. This marsh is now known as Guldeforde Level.

It was shortly before this period that Thomas Sheaffe, grandfather of Jacob the emigrant, purchased lands in Woodchurch, Kenardington and Apledore, Kent, of Richard Guildford, son of Sir John and half brother of Sir Thomas — Richard having become possessed of the Manor of Horne, alias Kenardington, by marriage with an heiress of the Horn family. After this, Richard, not having taken the oath of supremacy to Queen Elizabeth, was declared attainted and fled the country, and his lands were forfeited to the crown.

At Tenterden, where a branch of the Whitfields lived, Pittlesden Manor, at one time (Hen. VII.) belonged to Sir Edward Guldeford, Kt. Kenchill in the same parish also belonged to him.

Troops of young Flemings came to England in the time of Edward III., to establish the cloth trade, and finding Cranbrook, Kent, a favored spot for the industry, it was started there, and broadcloth halls were soon built, where the master manufacturer lived and kept his stock. Many of these halls are standing to-day; one of these is Willesley House (the residence of W. Smith Marriot, Esq.). Willesley was bequeathed to Edmond, father of Jacob Sheafe of Boston, by his uncle, William Sheafe of Cranbrook, who received it from his wife's step-father, Dr. Thomas Lange, of St. Cosmos and Damain-in-the-Blean, near Canterbury, in 1594. The cloth trade prospered, and large fortunes were made by the "Grey Coats of Kent," as they were called after their dress. Of these cloth workers were the Sheafe family, and others with whom they intermarried.

Thomas Sheffe of Cransbrook, Kent, in his will proved at Canterbury, 10 July, 1520, mentions his desire to be buried in the church of St. Duns-

tan of Cranbrook, within St. Thomas's Chancel, before the image of Our Lady of Pity there.

RICHARD SHEFF, born about 1510; died 1557; m. about 1534, Elizabeth —; buried 15 Oct., 1564.

Children:

JOAN, m. Richard Knachebull.

THOMAS, b. abt. 1535.

KATHERINE, m. — Love.

MARGARET, b. 1538; bur. 14 June, 1574.

MARGARET, b. 1540; m. John Smersoll.

ALICE, b. 1541.

WILLIAM, b. 1543.

MARY, b. 1545.

ANNE, b. 1546.

*The Will of Richard Sheff, in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.*  
(34 Wroastleg.)

The 21st day of June, 1557, I Richard Sheff of the parish of Cranebroke in co. Kent, clothier.

To be buried in the parish Church of Cranebroke, in St. Thomas's Chancel, beside the body of my father.

(Legacies to the said Church and to the poor there.)

An obit to be kept yearly in the said church for 4 years after my death.

I give to Elizabeth my wife £200.

To each of my unmarried daughters, viz., Margaret Sheff aged 16½ years, Alice Sheff aged 15½, Margery Sheff aged 18½, Mary Sheff aged 11½, & Anne Sheff aged 11 years at Easter next before the date hereof, I give £50.

If more than 2 of my daughters die before attaining the age of 25 or unmarried, then their portions to go to my sons Thomas & William, when the latter reaches the age of 22.

The said Thomas to be charged with the bringing up of my said daus, & I give him one of my silver goblets.

To Joan Knachebull my dau. another goblet.

To Elizabeth my wife my best silver goblet, &c. &c.

To Katheryn Love my dau. a silver pot, & a scripture thereupon parcel gilt.

To Anne Knachebull dau. of Richard Knachebull & Joan my dau. £3. 11. 8.

The residue of my household stuff (after my wife has taken her choice) to be divided between my said wife & Thomas my son, reserving to the latter all the hanging now in my principal tent wherein I now dwell.

I will that the said Thomas shall yearly for 16 years after my death deliver to the said Elizabeth at the messuage whereon I now dwell or at my messuage where Robert Clachynden now dwells in Cranebrook 20 loads of good wood "redy made."

To William my son £400, & I will that my executors buy land within the same to the use of my said son.

To Walter Hendley my cousin my best gown, &c.

To John Sheff my brother £5, &c. &c.

To Mathewe Cryar a gown, &c.

To Sir John Baker, kn., £5.

To "Mr Richard Baker Esquyer" £5.

The residue of my goods to Thomas my son whom I make executor.

The said Sir John Baker & Mr. Ric<sup>d</sup> Baker to be overseers.

This is the last will of me the said Richard Sheff concerning my lands, &c.

I give to Eliz. my wife the tenement and garden which Robert Clachynden now dwells in in Cranebrook for her life, also an annuity of £10 issuing out of all other my messuages, lands, &c. in Cranebrook for her life, also the occupation of the great parlour at the upper end of the hall of my principal messuage, the chamber over the said parlour, the 2 chambers next the harbor of the said messuage, the little "Buttre," the little cellar, with a place for her wood.

I give to Thomas Sheff my son all my messuages, lands, &c. in Cranebroke: to him and his heirs male; for default, to my son William and his heirs male; for default, to the next heirs of the said Thomas in fee simple.

To William my son all my marsh lands in the parish or Ivecchurch in co. Kent : to hold to him & his heirs male, for default, to my said son Thomas & his heirs male; for default, the same to remain to the heirs of the said William in fee simple.

Witnesses: George Atkyuson, Vicar, Richard Courtop, William Corttopp, Henry Allard, Water Henly.

Proved at London 24 Sept., 1557, by the ex'or.

Richard Sheaf of Cranbrook was on the Subsidy Roll in 1545.

The Church warden's accounts for Cranbrook for 1564-5 record the following: "received of Thomas Sheafe four pounds as a bequest for the burial of his father and mother in the church, and for repairs to the church."

<sup>1</sup> THOMAS SHEAFE, born about 1535; married about 1559, Mary Harman, b. 1536. They had fifteen children, nine sons and six daughters.

Their children, baptized at St. Dunstan's, Cranbrook, were :

A daughter, married George Roberts of Brancheley.

1. RICHARD, mar. 8 Jan., 1581, Margery Robertes.

2. EDMUND, 17 March, 1559-60; mar. (1) Elizabeth Taylor; (2) Joan (Jordan) Downe.

3. THOMAS, 10 Oct., 1562; mar. Maria Wilson.

JOAN, 19 Dec., 1562; mar. Dr. Giles Fletcher.

KATHERINE, 13 May, 1564; bur. 27 Oct., 1581 (plague?).

4. JOHN, 9 Sept., 1565; mar., 30 May, 1586, Katherine Sanders.

5. ALEXANDER, 15 Dec., 1566; mar., 13 Sept., 1591, Phebe Hyder.

MARY, 6 Jan. 1567; bur., 14 Oct. 1581 (plague?).

6. HARMAN, 4 July, 1570; mar. lie., 6 July, 1608, Sara Gyllebrand.

ANN, 2 Mch., 1571; mar. Peter Courthop.

SAMUEL, 21 Feb., 1573.

WILLIAM, bur., 27 Oct., 1575.

BENJAMIN, 18 Aug., 1577; bur. 21 Aug. 1577.

ELIZABETH, mar. lie., 13 Nov. 1602, Stephen Brett of New Romney. A daughter, mar. John Ruck.

On a small brass plate in Cranbrook Church, Edmund Sheafe records of his mother :

"Mary Sheafe, the wife of Thomas Sheafe, who lived together nere xlv yeares, and has issue between them ix sons and vi daughters, she a grave and charitable Matron, dyed lxxiii years of Age, November, 1609, impasivit. E. S."

On a brass on an adjoining stone is :

"William Sheafe after he had lived godly and christiandy the space of 73 years he departed this life the 21 of December, 1616, and his body lies here buried."

This refers to William Sheafe of Cranbrook, a brother of Thomas, who married, 24 Oct., 1569, Katherine Courtoppe, bur., 21 Mch., 1611.

Mary Sheafe, their sister, married 26 Jan., 1561, John Couchman.

William Sheafe evidently had no children, and left his property to his brothers and sisters and their children, as shown by his will which follows.

Thomas Sheafe, yeoman, was buried at Cranbrook's, 6 Sept., 1604, and an abstract of his will also follows.

1615, December 29, William Sheaffe of Cranbrooke, co. Kent, yeoman. Poor of Cranbrooke £10. Margt Courthopp, widow, my sister £10. Mary Couchman, widow, my sister £10. Richard, son of brother Thomas Sheafe, dec.<sup>d</sup> £100. Edmund Sheaffe his brother £10. Mr. Doctor Thomas Sheaffe his brother £20.

Harmon Sheafe his brother, £100. Thomas Sheafe, son of said Richard £50. Richard, brother of the said Thomas £50. Harman, another brother £20 when 21. Joan Bottinge, daughter of Cousin Richard Sheafe £20. Eliz. Sheafe, another daughter £20. Margaret Sheafe, another daughter £20. Helen Sheafe, another daughter £20. Thomas Sheafe, son of cousin John Sheafe, decd, £20. John Courthopp and Alex<sup>r</sup> Courthopp, somes of my cousin Peter Courthopp, w<sup>ch</sup> dwells in the house with me each £30. Katherine Courthopp their sister £30. Land mortgaged by kinsman Thomas Sheafe for £88. same to Mary Courthopp, another daughter of s<sup>d</sup> Peter if unredeemed. Thomas Sheafe, son of Cousin Alex<sup>r</sup> Sheafe, decd, £40. Alex<sup>r</sup>, Katherine and Mary his brother and sisters each £20. Thomas Ruck, son of John Ruck, that married brother Thomas Sheafe's daughter £20. W<sup>m</sup> Couchman, son of my sister Couchman. Said Peter Courthope £20 which I lent unto our Sovereign Lord James; and the privy seal which I have thereof. John, Edmund, Samuel, Mary, and Helen Sheafe, children of cousin John Sheafe, decd, each £10. Anne Courthopp, wife of Peter Courthopp, silver cuppe gylte and 6 best silver spoons and a playne silver salte. Foresaid Kath. Courthopp, one silver cuppe, and foresaid Mary Courthopp her sister a trencher silver salte gylte, cousin Roberts, wife of Mr. George Roberts of Brenchley, ring, etc., Anne Courthopp, wife of the said Peter Courthopp furniture, etc., John Courthopp my godson, son of Peter Courthopp, cubberd in the kitchen, etc., Alex<sup>r</sup> Courthopp cubberd in chamber over the parlor. Katherine and Mary Courthopp fether bedds, etc. Said godson John Courthopp my two books of Martyrs, and my great bible. Alex<sup>r</sup> his brother other bible. All pots, glasses, etc., to Anne, wife of Peter Courthopp. Dr. Thomas Sheafe, ex<sup>or</sup>. W<sup>m</sup> Sheafe, son of Dr. Thomas Sheafe, message, etc., 54 acres where I live. Peter Courthope to have free use, etc., for one year. Edmund Sheafe, son of Thomas Sheafe, my brother, mess, at Upper Wilsley. Harman Sheafe, message, etc., 60 acres in Brenchley. Proved 9 Jan. 1616 by Dr. Thomas Sheafe.

Thomas Sheafe of Cranbrooke, yeoman, in his will, dated 1604, proved in Canterbury 3 October, 1604, mentions Mr. Eddie, Vicar of Cranbrooke; Mary my wife; my son Richard Sheafe; my sons Giles Fletcher, George Roberts, Peter Courthop, and Stephen Brett; my daughters Fletcher, Roberts, Courthop, and Brett; my brother William Sheafe and his wife; my sisters Courthop, Hovenden, Couchman and Gibbion; Thomas, son of my son-in-law John Rucke; my son John Sheafe; Edmund, son of my son John Sheafe; Thomas Harmon, my wife's brother; Phoebe, widow of my son Alexander Sheafe; my lands and tenements in Cranbrooke, Hawk: erst, Goodherst, Brenchley, Penburie, Bennenden, Biddenden, Charte, Woodchurch, Apledore, Kenardington, Ruckinge, Suave, and Warehorne. To my son Richard Sheafe my principal message, wherein the said Richard then dwelt, with all the lands, etc., belonging to the same in the town and parish of Cranbrooke, to him and his heirs for ever, and likewise other lands and tenements there, and the moiety of certain lands and premises in Brenchley and Penburie, to him and his heirs for ever. To my son Edmund Sheafe lands and tenements which I late purchased of Richard Guilford, Esq., in Woodchurch, Kenardington, and Apledore, and my message and lands in Chart and Bedersden, to him and his heirs for ever. To my son Thomas Sheafe lands and wood which I purchased of Sir Thomas Fane, Knt., containing 23 acres in Bennenden, to him and his heirs for ever. To John Sheafe, my son, my message, dye house, buildings, etc., with the lands belonging to it in Goodherst, in the occupation of the said John Sheafe, also two tenements and 17 acres of land purchased by me of Sir Thomas Fane, Knt., in Bennenden and Biddenden, and other tenements in Cranbrooke, to him and his heirs for ever. To Thomas, son of my son Alexander Sheafe, deceased, and Phoebe, his wife, my message called Bakers, with the dye house and lands, etc., belonging to it in Cranbrooke,

also my messuage, lands, woods, etc., which I late purchased of John Couchman in Biddenden. To Alexander, son of my son, Alexander Sheafe, my messuage, lands, woods, etc., in the parish of Cranbrooke, upon the Denne of Plushingherst. To my son Harmon Sheafe my messuage, lands, etc., in Ruckinge, Suave, and Warchorne, also certain tenements in Cranbrooke.

Mr. Eddie, Vicar of Cranbrook, was the Rev. William Eddy who succeeded Robert Roads in 1589, and continued there "in low circumstances" till he died, in 1616. He was paid by the wardens for transcribing the register fairly, from 1558, into the large parchment book still existing, and had the clerk's wages for calling the psalms, &c. His son Samuel, it is said, was the same who came to Plymouth, Mass., in 1630. The predecessor of Mr. Roads was Richard Fletcher, who was made vicar in 1558. He was father of Richard Fletcher, chaplain to Queen Elizabeth, who attended Mary Queen of Scots at her execution. The son was made Bishop of Bristol in 1589, Worcester in 1592, London in 1594, and he died in 1596 (he was father of John Fletcher the dramatist). Another son was Giles, who in 1588 was an ambassador to Russia, of which nation he wrote a curious account in 1590, which was suppressed lest it should give offence to Russia. He married, 16 Jan., 1580, Joan Sheafe, and their sons were: Phineas, born in 1584, died about 1650, and Giles, born about 1588, died in 1623; two poets of some note. Giles, the father, died in 1610.

A daughter of Thomas and Mary Sheaf married George Roberts, Esq., of Brenchley, Kent; and Margaret, their daughter and heir, married Sir Walter Roberts of Glassenbury, Kent, who was knighted at Greenwich by King James, 7 May, 1624.

1. RICHARD SHEAFE, born —; married, 8 Jan., 1580-1, Margery Robertes.

Their children, baptized at Cranbrook, were:

JOAN, 13 Jan., 1582; m. Jonas Bottings.

KATHERINE, 20 Dec., 1584.

7. THOMAS, 5 June, 1587; m. lic. 3 Aug. 1611, Mary (Maria) Gibbons.

ELIZABETH, 26 Oct., 1589; m. 18 June, 1610, Timothe Collier.

ANNA, 20 Feb., 1591.

MARY, 1 April, 1593; m. 19 Nov., 1612, Jeremy Gyles.

8. RICHARD, 12 Oct., 1595.

MARGARET, 21 May, 1598.

ELLINE, 13 Dec., 1601; m. lic. 28 July, 1620, John Jacob.

9. HARMAN, 12 Oct., 1606.

Joan, daughter of the above, married Jonas Bottings, schoolmaster and parish clerk of Cranbrook. She survived her husband, and was buried 23 Aug., 1656. Their daughter, Joane Bottings of Goldford, was buried at Cranbrook, 10 Nov., 1658.

2. EDMUND SHEAFE, bapt. 1560, buried 1 Nov., 1626; married (1), 30 May, 1586, Elizabeth Taylor, buried 5 March, 1598; mar. lic. (2), Jane, or Jone, Jordan, sister of Nicholas Jordan, and widow of — Downe of Challock.

The following children by Elizabeth were christened at Marden, Kent:

10. THOMAS, 22 Oct., 1587; m. Mary Sharppy.

MARIE, 24 June, 1590; m. lic. 16 May, 1606, Joseph Glid, clothier, of Goudhurst.

ELIZABETH, 13 Aug., 1592; buried 3 Aug., 1593.

ELIZABETH, 2 Dec., 1593.

11. EDMOND, 14 March, 1596.

Christened at All Saints, Woodchurch, Kent (son of Joan):

12. JOHN, 24 Aug., 1600.

Record not found:

13. HARMAN; of Willesley.

Others were:

MARGARET, m. Robert Kitchell.

JOANNA, d. 16 Aug., 1668; m. (1) William Chittenden; (2) Abraham Cruttenden.

Christened at St. Dunstan's, Craubrook:

14. JACOB, 4 Aug., 1616; d. 22 March, 1659; m. Margaret Webb.

MARY, 19 Oct., 1617; buried 30 Jan., 1617-8.

MARY, 26 Sept., 1620; d. 22 July, 1693; m. Robert Merriam.  
1 Aug., 1616, bur. "a crisoner\* of Edmond Sheafe."

Edmond Sheafe of Cranbrook, in his will, dated 1 Nov. 1625, proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury, 11 Dec., 1626, mentions among other relatives: Joane my wife, to my wife's five children, and to my three sons-in-law which married her daughters—to Joane my wife furniture, etc. at her discretion "betwixt her children and mine"—my loving brother-in-law Mr. Nicholas Jordan, Esq., for my wife's sake, his own sister, to be overseer; my loving kinsman and neighbor Smallhope Bigge of Crambrooke, and Robert Kitchell, now of Crambrooke, my wife's eldest son, also overseers.

His wife's five children were probably John, Harmon, Jacob, Mary, and eldest daughter Margaret, who married Robert Kitchell. Robert Kitchell and Margaret Sheafe were licensed to marry, 21 June, 1631, she being of Tenterden, age 30, and he of Rolyenden, and he is stated to have been born in 1604. Under the above circumstances it would seem that son meant son-in-law. At Rolyenden, Kent, Robert Kitchell and Margaret Sheafe were married 21 July, 1632. They also had baptized in the same parish, 27 April, 1634, Harman; and 6 Dec., 1635, Samuel. Robert Kitchell went to Connecticut in 1639, and in 1666 removed to Newark, New Jersey, where he died in 1672; his widow going to Greenwich, Conn., where she died in 1682. Harman, the son, named after his great grandfather's family, did not come to New England, probably dying young. Samuel, bapt. 1635, came to Connecticut, married and settled in New Jersey, where he died 26 April, 1690. Two other children were Joanna, named after her grandmother, who married Rev. Jeremiah Peck, and Sarah, who died at Guilford, 10 May, 1651.

Mary Sheafe, bapt. 1620, at Cranbrook, married Robert Merriam of Hadlow, Kent, who died at Concord, Mass., 15 Feb., 1682, age 72 years; while his widow survived till 22 July, 1693, dying at the age of 72 years.

Mary Merriam, in her will written in 1688, mentions her cousin (niece) Mrs. Elizabeth Corwin, eldest daughter of her brother Jacob Sheafe; her cousin (niece) Mrs. Melitable Sheaf, youngest daughter of the same brother; her sister's four children living in the Southern parts, viz: John, Nathaniel, Mary and Joanna Chittenden; her cousin John Ruck; her cousin Samuel Ruck.

John and Samuel Ruck were sons of Thomas Ruck of Charlestown, Salem and Boston, who deposed 19 July, 1636, as aged about 48 years, and whose household goods were shipt from Malden, Essex, to New Eng-

\* A chrisom child was one buried within a month of its birth; therefore this was probably a twin to Jacob, who must have been born in June or July, 1616.



land. (Lechford, p. 118.) He had a son Thomas, lost at sea in 1653; and a daughter, Joan, married Henry Farnham. He was first cousin to Mrs. Mary (Sheafe) Merriam, being the son of her aunt, who married John Ruck. He is mentioned in the will of Thomas Sheafe, his grandfather, in 1604, and also in the will of his grand uncle, William Sheafe, in 1615. In 1639 he constituted his friend Thomas Ruck of London, haberdasher, and Thomas Plum of Malden, Essex, gent., attorneys for him in England. In 1650, John Ruck of Boston, N. E., and Thomas Ruck of London, haberdasher of small wares, were attorneys for William Goodwin. (Aspinwall.) Thomas Ruck of London was perhaps the brother of John, and son of Thomas of Salem who was lost at sea in 1653. Thomas Ruck, sen., came to New England in an adventure with Joseph Meriam of Concord (brother of Robert), and William Hatch of Scituate, in July, 1638. (Lechford, p. 163.)

William Chittenden came with his brothers-in-law to Guilford in 1639. It is possible that he was the William, son of Robert Chittendon, who was baptized at Marden, Kent, in March, 1594; and it was at Marden that five of the children of Edmund and Elizabeth (Taylor) Sheafe were baptized—the half brothers and sisters of Jacob Sheafe. He had several children born in Connecticut, among them the four mentioned in the will of Mary Merriam. He died, 1 Feb., 1662, and his widow Joan married, 1 May, 1665, Abraham Cruttenden, and died 16 Aug., 1668.

3. THOMAS SHEAFE, bapt. in 1562; d. 12 Dec. 1639; married Maria, b.—, bur. 26 July, 1613, at Welford, Berks, a dau. of Rev. William Wilson, D.D., Canon of Windsor. William Wilson was son of William Wilson, "late of Wellsbourne, Lincolnshire, gent.," who is buried in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. William, the son, was educated at Merton College, Oxford. He was a Prebendary of St. Paul's and Rochester Cathedral, and also rector of Cliffe, Kent. He was chaplain of Archbishop Grindall of Canterbury, and was made Canon of Windsor in 1584.

He married Isabel, daughter of John and Elizabeth Woodhall of Walden, Essex, a niece of Bishop Grindall. He died in 1615, and was buried next his father at Windsor.

His eldest son was Edmund Wilson, M.D., of London, who gave the Massachusetts Colony £1000, about 1633, for arms and ammunition.

His second son was Rev. John Wilson of the First Church, Boston.

A daughter, Margaret, married David Rawson of London, and was mother of Edward Rawson, first Secretary of the Bay Colony.

In the will of Dr. Edmund Wilson, we have another confirmation of the relationship to Rev. Henry Whitfield and the Sheaf family. His will was proved 11 Oct., 1633, and in it he gives to "my cousin (niece) Whitfield ten pounds, to Thomas Sheafe ten pounds, to cousin (nephew) Edmund Sheafe ten pounds, to cousin (nephew) Grindall Sheafe ten pounds, to cousin (niece) Norwood ten pounds, to cousin (niece) Wesley ten pounds, to cousin (niece) Rebecca Haselrig ten pounds," \* \* \* the overseers to be my brothers-in-law, Thomas Sheafe, Doctor of Divinity, Mr. John Summers and Mr. Bartholomew Edwards of Aldermanbury. (REGISTER, xiii, p. 175.)

Rev. William Wilson, in his will proved 27 May, 1615, mentions his godson William Sheafe when twenty-one; and in the codicil he mentions his son-in-law Mr. Dr. Thomas Sheafe. (REGISTER, xxxviii, p. 306.)

Thomas Sheafe was admitted to Cambridge in 1580, a Fellow of King's College. He succeeded George Darrell as rector of Welford, Berks, Aug.,

1597; was also beneficed at another place in the same county; and was installed Dean of Windsor, 29 March, 1614-15. He published "A Plea for Old Age" (London, 1639); and died soon after, 12 Dec., 1639, and was buried in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

His will was proved 2 March, 1639-40: To son Grendall lands in Hungerford and Inkpen, co. Berks. Books at house at Windsor and Wickham, in Welford aforesaid, excepting book of Martyrs, etc., to wife. Son Grindall lease of house at Newbury, and £15 to bear the charge of degree of B.D. Son Thomas, cottage at Benenden, co. Kent. Daughter Dorothy Whitfield blankets, etc. Seven children, Edmund, Grindall, Edward, and daughters Whitfield, Westley, Norwood and Hesilrigge. Residue of estate equally to be divided. Sons Thomas and Edmund executors.

The children of Rev. Thomas and Mary (Wilson) Sheafe were:

- WILLIAM, d. young.
- 15. EDMUND, mar. Elizabeth Cotton.
- 16. THOMAS, d. 7 Aug., 1657.
- 17. GRINDALL, d. 28 Apr., 1680; mar. Anne Munday.
- DOROTHY, mar. Rev. Henry Whitfield.
- A daughter, mar. — Westley.
- A daughter, mar. — Norwood.
- REBECCA, mar. Thomas Hesilrigge.
- EDWARD.

The register of Welford gives, under the date of 30 Sept., 1614, the baptism of Edward, son of Thomas Sheafe, and there is a probability of this being a son by a second wife, as we find recorded the burial, 30 Sept., 1614, of Anna, wife of Thomas Sheafe. This is strengthened by the fact that Edward is mentioned in his father's will, and only the seven children by Maria Wilson received bequests in the will of their uncle, Dr. Edmund Wilson, in 1633. There is no record of this second marriage at Welford.

A branch of the Whitfield family was located at Tenterden, Kent, the first being John, a brother of Robert, the grandfather of Rev. Henry Whitfield. John's son, Herbert of Tenterden, had a son, Sir Ralph Whitfield, Kt., and sergeant-at-law, who in his will, proved 1645, mentions "my cousin Henry Whitfield, Bachelor in Divinity," also another cousin, Francis Whitfield of Whitfield Hall, which was in Bethersden parish, now called "The Thorne" (from a large thorn tree growing near it). In the Bethersden church are some Whitfield monuments, as in Tenterden church, where there is a fine marble one to Herbert Whitfield, who died in 1622, who is mentioned above.

Dorothy Sheafe, the daughter, was the wife of Rev. Henry Whitfield, who went to Guilford, Conn., in 1639, with Jacob Sheafe, his wife's first cousin, and others from Kent. Whitfield returned to England in 1650, and died at Winchester in 1657. (REGISTER, li. p. 417.)

Sir Thomas Hesilrigge of Noseley, Leicestershire, High Sheriff, married Frances, daughter of Sir William Gorges of Olverton (Alderton), Northamptonshire. Their third son, Thomas, a mercer of the Cordwainer Ward, London, married Rebecca, daughter of Rev. Thomas Sheafe of Windsor. (Visitation of London, 1633-4, Harl. Soc., xv., p. 380.) His brother, Sir Arthur Hesilrigge, mar. (2) Dorothy, sister of Lord Brooke, and their son, Sir Thomas, mar. Elizabeth, daughter of George Fenwick of Brunton Hall, Northumberland, and Saybrook, Conn.

4. JOHN SHEAFE of Goodhurst, bapt. 1565; died between 1604 and 1609; mar. 30 May, 1586, Katherine Sanders. On his death she mar.

(lic.), 6 Nov. 1609, Francis Birch, yeoman, of Goodhurst, where she resided.

John and Katherine (Sanders) Sheafe had :

THOMAS, d. in 1618.  
EDMUND.  
JOHN.  
SAMUEL.  
MARY.  
HELEN.  
ANN.

They are mentioned in the will of their uncle, William Sheafe.

5. ALEXANDER SHEAFE, bapt. 1566 ; bur., 20 Sept., 1601 ; mar., 13 Sept., 1591, Phebe Hyder.

Their children, baptized at Cranbrook, were :

THOMAS, 29 Oct., 1592.  
WILLIAM, 22 Dec., 1594 ; bur. 28 Dec., 1594.  
KATHERINE, 1 Feb., 1595.  
MARY, 2 July, 1598.  
ALEXANDER, 1 Feb., 1600 ; mar. —.

Phebe, the widow, and the four surviving children, are mentioned in the wills of their grandfather Thomas, and great uncle William Sheafe.

6. HARMON SHEAFE, bapt. 1570 ; mar. lic. 6 July, 1608, Sara, daughter of — and widow of — Gyllebrand of Cranbrook.

7. THOMAS SHEAFE, bapt. 1587 ; mar. lic. 3 Aug., 1611, Maria (Marie?), dau. of Philip and Elizabeth Gibbons of St. Mary Magdalen, Canterbury.

Their children, christened in Cranbrook, were :

RICHARD, 14 June, 1612.  
ELIZABETH, 20 June, 1613.  
MARGARET, 21 Aug., 1614.  
THOMAS, 23 Feb., 1616.  
GIBBON, 27 July, 1623.  
MARY, 26 Feb., 1625.  
DOROTHY.

All the children are mentioned in the will of their grandfather, Philip Gibbons, yeoman, of Canterbury.

This family of Gibbons was the same as that of Gibbons the historian.

*Phillip Gibbon* of St. Mary Magdalen, Canterbury, yeoman, in his will proved at Canterbury, 16 September, 1629, mentions : Mary, my daughter, wife of Thomas Sheafe ; Elizabeth, Margaret, Dorothy and Mary Sheafe, my grandchildren ; Richard Sheafe, my daughter Mary's eldest son ; Richard Sheafe, deceased, late grandfather of the said Richard ; Gibbon Sheafe, son of my daughter Mary ; Thomas Sheafe, son of my daughter Mary.

10. THOMAS SHEAFE, bapt. 1587 ; dead in 1635 ; mar. 24 Sept., 1616, at Staplehurst, Kent, Mary, daughter of — and Frances Sharppy of Cranbrook.

Their children, christened at Cranbrook, were :

FRANCES, 26 April, 1618.  
MARY, 30 Jan., 1618-19.  
ANNA, 2 May, 1624, 1 twins.  
RICHARD, 2 May, 1624 ; j bur. 20 Jan., 1625.  
WILLIAM, 10 Feb. 1627.  
JOHN, 12 July, 1629.

Frances, Ann and Mary appear in the will of their grandmother, Frances Sharpye, in 1635.

*Frances Sharpye* of Cranbrook, widow, in her will proved at Cranbrook, 22 August, 1635, mentions my daughter Sheafe; Frances Sheafe, eldest daughter of my daughter Mary Sheafe; Mary and Anne, two other daughters of my daughter Mary Sheafe; my son-in-law Thomas Sheafe, deceased.

13. HARMAN SHEAFE, mar. (1) Elizabeth Pauckhurst; mar. (2) about 1640, Mary, daughter of William Butcher of Hurtspierpont, Sussex; mar. (3) Mary, daughter of Robert Swinock of Maidstone, Kent, who was imprisoned for non-conformity (Palmer's Memorial); mar. (4) Mary, daughter of Edward Wood.

He had christened, at Cranbrook:

MARY, 10 Oct., 1641.  
ELIZABETH, 22 Dec., 1642.  
SARAH, 3 Dec., 1643; d. young.  
HARMAN, 30 Nov., 1645.  
THOMAS, 17 Oct., 1647.  
SARAH, 22 Oct., 1649.  
SAMUEL, 11 Oct., 1657.

The last child was by the last wife, and two daughters by the second wife were surviving in 1662—Elizabeth and Sarah; the latter married Jacob Sharp. This is shown by his statement furnished for the Visitation of Kent, 1663-1668, in which he also gives his parents and grandparents—Edmund and Joan (Jordan) Sheafe and Thomas and Mary (Harmon) Sheafe.

14. JACOB SHEAFE, bapt. 1616; died 22 March, 1658-9, at Boston, Mass. He married, by special permit of 7 Sept., 1643, Margaret, d. 24 Feb., 1644, daughter of Henry Webb of Boston, formerly of Salisbury, Wilts.

They had, born in Boston:

ELIZABETH, b. 1 Oct., 1644; d. 29 Aug., 1718; mar. (1) 7 Sept., 1660, Robert Gibbs; mar. (2) 29 March, 1675, Jonathan Curwen.  
SAMUEL, b. 4 Apr., bapt. 9 April, 1648.  
MARY, bapt. 19 May, 1650.  
SARAH, b. 14 Sept., bapt. 23 Sept., 1652.  
EBENEZER, b. 4 Feb., bapt. 5 Feb., 1653-4.  
MARCY, b. 25 July, bapt. 29 July, 1655.  
MENTABEL, b. 28 May, bapt. 30 May, 1658; mar. Sampson Sheafe.  
JACOB, b. 23 July, bapt. 24 July, 1659; d. 4 Aug., 1659.

Jacob Sheafe came with Rev. Henry Whitfield, Robert Kitchel and William Chittenden, relatives by marriage, and other Kent men, in 1639, and settled at Guilford, Conn., where he was one of the pillars of the church.

Mistress Sheafe, a widow, was living at Roxbury in 1640, and kept fourteen goats and ten kids. (Roxbury Land Records, p. 4.)

Jacob Sheafe had sold in 1643 a house and land in Roxbury, and at about this time he married Margaret Webb. He was represented at Guilford by his attorneys in two law suits in 1645, and in 1648 he sold his Guilford property. He also owned land in Roxbury, as shown by the Book of Possessions. He was a constable of Boston in 1651, and was chosen selectman of Boston 8 March, 1657-8, and attended all the meetings to the time of his death.

He is buried under a table-tomb in King's Chapel Burial Ground, on which is inscribed: "Here lyeth interred the body of Jacob Sheaffe, who sometime lived in Cranbrooke in Kent, in *OULD ENGLAND*, who deceased y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> of March 1658 AE 42 years."

His inventory amounted to £8528-8-3, evidently the benefits of his marriage to the daughter of Henry Webb, who was very wealthy. Among the items was one-quarter part of three mills at Roxbury; dwelling and grounds; sugar at England and Barbadoes; a vessel and its cargo. The widow married, about 1665, Thomas, son of Rev. Peter Thacher, who was Rector of St. Edmunds, Salisbury, England, from whence came Henry Webb her father.

Jacob Sheafe was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in 1648, and its clerk in 1652.

15. EDMUND SHEAFE, b. —; d. 1649; mar. Elizabeth, dau. of Sampson and Elizabeth (Juxon) Cotton of St. Michael Pater Noster in the Royal, London. He was a citizen and mercer of London.

They had:

ELIZABETH.

REBECCA.

18. SAMPSON, b. 26 Dec., 1646; d. 1726; m. Mehitable Sheafe.

In his will he gives to the poor of Welford, where he was born, 40 shillings. There is no record of his birth there, the only baptism being that of Edward, as given previously. It was probably a supposition of the testator that he was born at Welford, his father having been rector there for seventeen years. His will is here given.

1647, August 30, Edmund Sheafe, Citizen and Mercer of London. Daughter Elizabeth Sheafe £250. Daughter Rebecca Sheafe £250. Only son Sampson Sheafe £250 to be paid when 21 or married. Wife Mrs. Elizabeth Sheafe one-third of my estate. Brother Dr. Thomas Sheafe £20. His eldest daughter Mary £5. Mother Mrs. Eliz<sup>th</sup> Cotton £10. Brother and sister Walters £5. Brother and sister Westfield £10. Brother and sister Edge £5. Brothers James and Thomas Cotton each £5. Poor of parish where I dwell 40s. Poor of Welford where I was born 40s. Brother Grindall Sheafe, and brother Edward Sheafe, and sister Westley, and sister Bale each 40s. Mr. John Graunett 50s. for ring. Residue to wife Elizabeth ex'ix. Overseers, Dr. Thomas Sheafe and Mr. Thomas Walters. Dated 30 Aug. 1647; pr. 22 Oct. 1649 by Elizab. Sheafe, relict and executrix.

16. THOMAS SHEAFFE, B.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge, 1624-5; M.A., 1628; D. Med., 1636; Fellow of the College of Physicians, 1637; d. 7 Aug. 1657; had a daughter, Mary.

17. REV. GRINDALL SHEAFE, b. —, d. 28 Apr., 1680; mar. Anne, dau. of Rev. Francis and — Munday.

He was a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and a Doctor of Divinity. He was Vicar of Coltshall and Horstead, Norfolk; an archdeacon, canon and prebendary of Wells; and also held other preferments; and was buried in the Cathedral at Wells.

Rev. Francis Mundy was son of Francis of Oxford, gent.; born, 1612, he matriculated 9 Nov., 1627, at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1631; M. A., 1634; B.C.L., 1636; D.D., 1661; a Public Actuary; Rector of Sulington, Sussex, 1639; of Dogmersfield, Hants, 1639; and of Welford, Berks, 1639; canon, 1661, and sub-dean, 1665, of Wells; treasurer of Landaff, 1665; Rector of Ashbury, Berks, 1666-74, and of Hinton Wald-

rish, Berks, from 1674 until his death, 22 Nov., 1678. There are several monuments of the Munday family in Welford Church. Grindall and Ann (Munday) Sheafe had no surviving issue, as will be seen by his will:—

1679. January 2, Grindall Sheafe. To the poor of different parishes in Wells. Mrs. Eliz. Baker my sister-in-law £50. Niece Mrs. Dorothy Grimstone £40. Nephew Mr. Samuel Westley, woollen draper, £40. Niece Mrs. Mary Vivian £10. Her sister Mrs. Martha Vivian £10. Mr. Grindall Wilson, Minister of Dymock, book, etc. Cousin Mr. Thomas Brickenden of Dinham, co. Somerset, books. Eliz. his wife. Money due to me from Mr. Henry Welstead. Nephew Mr. John Bale, son of Dr. John Bale of Canterbury, £200. Residue to cousin Mr. Nicholas Pointer of Wells, and cousin Mary his wife. Pr. 21 May 1680.

18. SAMPSON SHEAFE, b. 26 Dec., 1646, in St. Faith's Parish; d. 1726; mar. about 1673, Mchitable, b. 28 May, 1658, dau. of Jacob and Margaret (Webb) Sheafe, his second cousin.

Their children, born in Boston, were:

MEHTABLE, b. 10 Dec., 1677; d. 14 Dec., 1677.

MEHTABLE, b. 27 Nov., 1680.

19. JACOB, b. 18 Feb., 1681-2; m. Mary —.

SAMPSON, b. 14 Aug., 1683.

MATTHEW, b. 1 Jan., 1684-5.

In 1669, Sampson Sheafe had commenced to trade with Boston merchants, having previously lived in London.

In May, 1671, he had removed to Boston (Suff. Deeds, vii., 175). At the town meeting of 10 March, 1677-8, he was elected a constable, but did not serve, paying a fine instead.

In 1681 his house was burned; and the night of 9 June, 1688, he was robbed and wounded by three men on the Common.

For several years he was a member of the committee to audit the town accounts, the last time 13 March, 1692-3. In 1693 he acted as clerk at the opening of the General Court. He then removed to Newcastle, N. H. He was Deputy Collector of Customs for New Hampshire, and Secretary and Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and Councillor in 1699.

He held the office of Deputy Collector till 1707. Perhaps he returned to Boston in 1712, when his son Jacob was approved to keep one of the schools of the town.

He died after 6 Dec., 1725, when Judge Sewall found him sick abed at three in the afternoon.

19. JACOB SHEAFE, b. 1682; d. 1761; mar. Mary—. He was a schoolmaster in Boston, where he taught first the one on Queen (Court) Street, and later the one by the Common, which adjoined his father's house, the lane to which became known as Sheaffe's Lane, and is now Avery Street.

His children, born in Boston, were:

MARGARET, b. 1709; d. 1710.

MEHTABLE, b. 4 Sept., 1711.

MARY, b. 26 May, 1713.

ABIGAIL, b. 28 June, 1715.

MARGARET, b. 7 May, 1717; d. 1717.

MARGARET, b. 12 Feb., 1718; d. 1718.

ELIZABETH, b. 15 March, 1720; d. 1720.

LYDEA, b. 1 Oct., 1722.

JACOB, b. 21 March, 1727.

SARAH, b. 7 June, 1729; d. 1730.

ELIZABETH, b. 3 Feb., 1731.









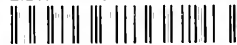








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